Awake!

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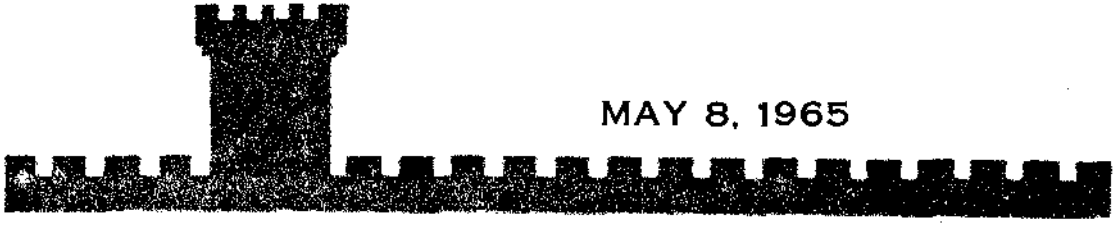

MAY 8, 1965

THE REASON FOR THIS MAGAZINE

News sources that are able to keep you awake to the vital issues of our times be unfettered by censorship and selfish interests. "Awake!" has no fetters. It recognizes facts, faces facts, is free to publish facts. It is not bound by political ties; it is unhampered by traditional creeds. This magazine keeps itself free, that it may speak freely to you. But it does not abuse its freedom. It maintains integrity to truth.

The viewpoint of "Awake!" is not narrow, but is international. "Awake!" has its own correspondents in scores of nations. Its articles are read in many lands, in many languages, by millions of persons.

In every issue "Awake!" presents vital topics on which you should be informed. It features penetrating articles on social conditions and offers sound counsel for meeting the problems of everyday life. Current news from every continent passes in quick review. Attention is focused on activities in the fields of government and commerce about which you should know. Straightforward discussions of religious issues alert you to matters of vital concern. Customs and people in many lands, the marvels of creation, practical sciences and points of human interest are all embraced in its coverage. "Awake!" provides wholesome, instructive reading for every member of the family.

"Awake!" pledges itself to righteous principles, to exposing hidden foes and subtle dangers, to championing freedom for all, to comforting mourners and strengthening those disheartened by the failures of a delinquent world, reflecting sure hope for the establishment of God's righteous new order in this generation.

Get acquainted with "Awake!" Keep awake by reading "Awake!"

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Awake!
"It is already the hour for you to awake."
—Romans 13:11

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A CERTAIN millionaire enjoyed "practical jokes," especially tricks to frighten others. For a hearty laugh he installed an electric shocking device in a seat of his home movie room. When his guests were absorbed in the film, he would delight in pressing the button, sending an electric jolt to the person sitting in the victim's seat. The shocked person would jump up, yelling. But one day the guest who sat in the trick seat was a pregnant woman. The electric shock frightened her so severely that it resulted in a miscarriage. The millionaire, sued for a large sum of money, settled out of court for his "practical" joke. The "joke" was not worth the intended fun.

Such misguided humor can indeed be most dangerous. As a joke, pulling a chair away from a person about to sit down may provide a big laugh, but it also may lead to a big doctor bill. Putting a match or wadded paper into a shoe of a sleeping or unsuspecting person and then setting it aflame may be viewed by some as extremely funny. But is it really funny when a person is burned? In one case a man given a so-called "hotfoot" suffered third-degree burns on his leg and foot. Jokes are not worth it when they can injure others.

Some jokesters deceive or alarm others with their tongue, yet they can be just as cruel as those who use fire to trick others. Telephone jokesters, feeling safe in their anonymity, often use their tongue like fiery missiles. For example, a woman in Seattle, Washington, picked up her ringing telephone one day and was told by a solemn voice: "This is the city morgue. Would you please come down and identify your husband's body?" The woman had hardly turned and relayed the message to her daughter when she dropped dead of a heart attack. She did not live long enough to learn it was all a "joke"! How cruel are such deceptive "jokes"!

It is because tricks and jokes, though usually only intended for a laugh, can be so dangerous that the Word of God likens the trick player to a mad man armed with deadly weapons: "Just like someone mad that is shooting fiery missiles, arrows and death, so is the man that has tricked his fellow man and has said: 'Was I not having fun?' " (Prov. 26:18) Here the Bible warns Christians that a trick or joke may have fatal consequences, even when one's inten-

tions are only fun. After injury is done, no healing or rectification results from saying: "It was only a joke. Was I not having fun?"

Thus God's Word warns Christians not to act "like someone mad that is shooting fiery missiles." Underscoring the danger involved when people act that way are the statistics of the United States National Safety Council and those of many insurance companies. Their reports indicate that practical jokes cost hundreds of lives, thousands of injuries and a vast amount of money in needless medical expense. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company reports that many accidents from gunshot wounds started as a joke—a youth with a rifle or pistol jokingly pointing a deadly weapon at his companion.

In view of such reports and especially the Bible's warning, one might well think twice about playing even seemingly "safe" jokes. Take, for instance, such an apparently innocuous a joke as a "trick Swiss cheese" toy. The jokester places a piece of plastic that looks like a piece of Swiss cheese between two slices of real bread and makes a delightful-looking sandwich; this is offered to the unsuspecting victim. No doubt this trick has provoked many laughs, but in one case in West Germany recently the laughter soon turned to grief. Some of the trick cheese was swallowed by the victim, causing death. West German health authorities demonstrated that when the toy swiss cheese comes in contact with gastric juices, the pliable plastic becomes hard and the sharp edges cut into the intestines of the victim.

Even though the majority of jokes do not cause injury, we do well to consider the reactions they provoke. Some stores abound with joke devices, such as electric shockers, cigars that explode, devices that squirt water into one's eye, itching powder, stink bombs and real-looking toy snakes and spiders, and so forth.

It is to be noted that many tricks are designed to frighten a person. Women are often the target of such jokes, the jokester placing a toy mouse, snake or spider in a place where one will unexpectedly come upon the frightening object. Even when this fright does not cause hysteria or fainting, the Christian must view the matter in the light of the Bible, which commands: "Become kind to one another." (Eph. 4:32) Is a joke kind when it frightens others?

Some jokes, of course, merely cause nuisance and in doing so often make one a laughingstock. In fact, one definition of the term "practical joke" is: "A trick, sometimes carefully prepared, in which some particular person is made the laughingstock." Such tricks may deeply humiliate a person. Is this worth it? Is it Christian? At the heart of the matter are the words of the Lord Jesus Christ: "All things, therefore, that you want men to do to you, you also must likewise do to them." (Matt. 7:12) This principle would rule out such "practical" jokes.

Certainly there is a place for humor, but too often it is misguided. Christian parents can help guide their children in this regard, warning them of the pitfalls of pranks and tricks. At school, youths may be tempted or put under pressure to join others in pranks; but Christian youths can profit from the example of God's prophet, Jeremiah, who pointed out his innocency in regard to association: "I have not sat down in the intimate group of those playing jokes and begun exulting."—Jer. 15:17.

In view of the cost in injuries and life, in view of the emotional impact many tricks produce and in view of what the Word of God says about the matter, practical jokes are not worth it.

DO All good people GO TO Heaven?

OR DOES THE BIBLE TEACH THAT SOME PERSONS WILL ALSO LIVE FOREVER IN HAPPINESS ON EARTH?

"HEAVEN is man's eternal home, not the earth," the man asserted. "Yes, I believe that *all* good people will go to heaven." This, in substance, is the usual response to the above questions. But is there any Scriptural basis for such a belief?

The teachings of the Founder of Christianity, Jesus Christ, have largely been responsible for the fact that people of Christendom harbor within their hearts the expectations of heavenly life. Especially are the words of Jesus on his last night of earthly life cherished: "In the house of my Father there are many abodes. Otherwise, I would have told you, because I am going my way to prepare a place for you. Also, if I go my way [to heaven] and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and *will receive you home to myself, that where I am you also may be.*" What comforting assurance that Jesus would remember his faithful followers, and would receive them into everlasting heavenly abiding places with himself!—John 14:2, 3.

Three days later, on the morning of Nisan 16, 33 C.E., real basis was supplied to Jesus' promise on the night before his execution. He was miraculously delivered from the grip of death, and raised to life as a spirit creature. "He being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit," his faithful apostle Peter declared. —1 Pet. 3:18; Ps. 104:4; Matt. 27:45–28:20.

Contrary to the claims of some, this resurrection of Jesus actually occurred. The resurrected Jesus showed himself alive to many persons by materializing human bodies.* An inspired record concerning Jesus' postresurrection appearances says: "He appeared to Cephas [Peter], then to the twelve. After that he appeared to upward of five hundred brothers at one time . . . After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles." These persons to whom Jesus showed himself were moral, upright men of integrity who formed the nucleus of true Christianity. It is absurd to believe that they were spreading falsehoods when, at the risk of their own lives, they proclaimed the message of Christ's death and resurrection throughout the Roman world!—1 Cor. 15:3-8.

Jesus' resurrection, therefore, provides a firm basis for believing his promise that he would also receive into the heavens faithful followers of his. In evidence that early Christians had a strong conviction that they would be rewarded with heavenly life, one apostle of Jesus wrote: "As for us, our citizenship exists in the heavens, from which place also we are eagerly waiting for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will refashion our humiliated body to be conformed to his glorious body."—Phil. 3:20, 21; 2 Cor. 5:1, 2; Rom. 6:5.

But is it correct to assume that because early Christians entertained the hope of

* Such appearances were not unprecedented, for spirit angels in the past had materialized human bodies to appear to such persons as Lot, Manoah and Mary the daughter of Heli. See Genesis 19:1-3; Judges 13:6-18 and Luke 1:26-33.

heavenly life *all* good persons will go to heaven? Is heavenly life the only reward set before humans? What about life on a paradise earth? Was it God's original purpose in creating man that earth was only to be a testing ground to prepare him for heaven? These are questions that deserve a Bible answer.

Original Purpose for Man

The Scriptures make clear that it was a happy *earthly* home that God gave mankind to start with. He put the first man Adam in a prepared pleasant section of earth called Eden and gave him a perfect companion as a helper. Jesus Christ himself testified to this fact when he said: "Did you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female . . . Therefore, what God has yoked together let no man put apart." —Matt. 19:4-6.

After bringing the perfect pair together God showed his purpose in creating them by instructing them: "Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it." (Gen. 1:28) As this procreation instruction was carried out, the garden of Eden or paradise of pleasure would need to be enlarged. This would be done by the peaceful activities of all living humankind until the entire earth was brought to the same perfect state of cultivation enjoyed by the original garden of Eden. If Adam and Eve had kept on obeying the divine law, they and their offspring would never have died, but would have continued to live and enjoy the paradise of pleasure on earth forever. That was God's original purpose.

There is no indication in the Scriptures that God ever promised Adam and Eve that they would be transported to heaven to become angels if they continued faithful to God for a time on earth. In fact, in all the inspired Scriptures from Moses' writings down to the last Hebrew prophet Malachi before Jesus Christ, no promises of heaven were held out to mankind; nor did any man go to heaven. We have the word of Jesus Christ for this.

When Jesus was on earth, which was over 4,000 years after the disobedience of Adam and Eve, he said to a Jewish ruler: "How will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? Moreover, no man has ascended into heaven but he that descended from heaven, the Son of man." (John 3:12, 13) Yes, according to Jesus' own word, no man had ascended to heaven for all those 4,000 years down until his day. But what about after his death and resurrection?

On the day of Pentecost, fifty days after Jesus had been raised from the dead, Peter addressed an international audience of Jews and said: "Brothers, it is allowable to speak with freeness of speech to you concerning the family head David, that he both deceased and was buried and his tomb is among us to this day. *Actually David did not ascend to the heavens.*"—Acts 2: 29, 34.

Surprising as it may seem to you, David, the man after God's own heart, did not go to heaven; neither did all the good men who lived from faithful Abel's time to John the Baptist go to heaven. A heavenly hope was not held out to those persons who lived before the death of Jesus Christ. Rather, they looked forward to when God's original purpose concerning the earth would be fulfilled. Theirs was an earthly hope.

For this reason Jesus spoke about John the Baptist and said: "Among those born of women there has not been raised up a greater than John the Baptist; but a person that is a lesser one in the kingdom of the heavens is greater than he is. But from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of the heavens is the goal toward which men press, and those pressing for-

ward are seizing it." Jesus said that a lesser one "in the kingdom of the heavens" is greater than John because of the fact that John will not be in heaven, but will be rewarded with earthly life under the righteous rule of God's kingdom. John the Baptist was the last of the faithful pre-Christian servants of God, and that is why Jesus said that from his days onward a heavenly goal or hope was set before Christians.—Matt. 11:11, 12.

Righteous Rule over a Paradise Earth

Almighty God did not change the destiny of the earth and mankind on it after Adam started the human race down the path of sin and death. It would have been admitting defeat as to accomplishing his original purpose had he done so. That original purpose to have an earth-wide paradise populated with happy, healthy people still stands. The only new thing that God introduced was his decision to vindicate his unchanged purpose by means of a new government over the earth. It was this government, called in the Bible the "kingdom of God" or "the kingdom of the heavens," that Jesus Christ spent his three-and-a-half-year ministry proclaiming. —Luke 8:1; Matt. 4:17.

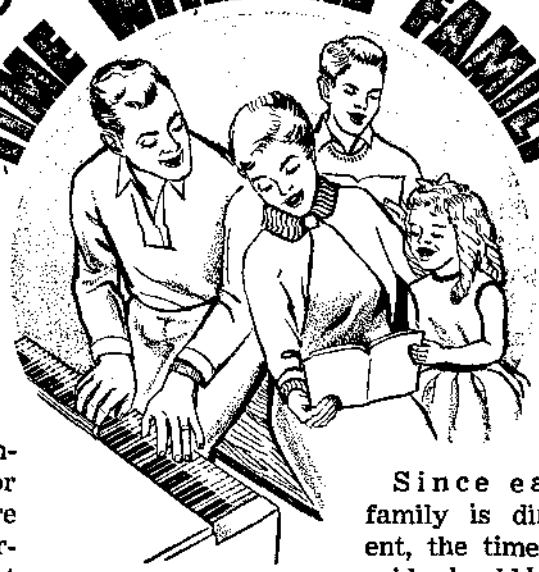
Jesus himself was the one designated by his Father to be the king of that kingdom, but he was also to have corulers. Jesus showed this when he said to his faithful apostles: "You are the ones that have stuck with me in my trials; and I make a covenant with you, just as my Father has made a covenant with me, for a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom." (Luke 22:28-30) This promise, that if they remained faithful they would reign with him in his kingdom, opened a heavenly hope to Jesus' followers.

But that only a limited number would be selected to that heavenly rule Jesus indicated when he said: "Have no fear, *little flock*, because your Father has approved of giving you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32) How select was this kingdom class to be? Were only the apostles to reign with Christ? No, the Bible record shows that this "little flock" would include more, for at Revelation 14:1, 3 it says: "And I saw, and, look! the Lamb [Jesus Christ] standing upon the [heavenly] Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand . . . who have been bought from the earth."—Heb. 12:22.

So rather than all good people going to heaven, the Bible shows that only 144,000 persons will be taken there, and that for the specific purpose of being corulers with Jesus Christ in his heavenly kingdom. Describing how Jesus made this possible, the scripture says: "You were slaughtered and with your blood you bought persons for God out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and you made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God, and *they will rule as kings over the earth.*" —Rev. 5:9, 10.

Obviously if Christ and his 144,000 kingdom associates are to rule over the earth, they must have earthly subjects. These will include those ancient witnesses of God such as Abel, David and John the Baptist, as well as millions of other humans who are dead but still in God's memory. In keeping with Christ's promise, these will hear his voice and come out of their memorial tombs to enjoy the earthly blessings God has in store for them. How fine it will be to be among those who live under the righteous rule of Jesus Christ and his corulers! The sure promise is that "God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be any more. The former things have passed away."—Rev. 21:3, 4; see also John 5:28, 29; Ps. 46:9; Isa. 11:6-9; Mic. 4:3, 4.

Your TIME WITH THE FAMILY



PARENTS, what are you doing to improve your family life? Do you set aside time to be with your children? Do you have an organized plan on which the children can depend, a program that calls for regularly spending time with them? If you do not have such an arrangement, then you are missing a rare blessing in life.

The tendency of many parents today is to care for the children's material needs, send them to school and then let them fend for themselves. "God knows," said a mother of five, "we have enough to do the way it is without any program or schedule. Let the schools and the community do something. You can see for yourself, we don't have the time. We're just simply too busy." But, busy as parents may be, the fact remains they cannot afford to neglect the training of their children. Outside organizations and schools simply do not adequately do the job.

There is much that can be done as a family, if parents just give the matter a little forethought and do some planning. Here are a few suggestions that may help you outline such a program and put it into operation.

Setting Aside Time

To begin with, it is good to set aside some time each day for the entire family to be together; make it at least an hour, if possible. However, the success of the occasion does not depend so much on its length as it does on its regularity. Being consistent is what makes family time catch on. And when it does, it becomes a happy habit. Some families have called this regular time together the "happy hour," others have named it "the family hour." Calling it by some name seems to set this time aside, and it does add sparkle to the occasion.

Since each family is different, the time set aside should be as convenient as possible to everyone. Some families enjoy their family hour as soon as father comes home from work. Others get together right after the evening meal. There are families whose schedules are so busy that they combine their "happy hour" with their mealtime. But, regardless of the circumstances, practically every family can arrange some time each day, particularly on the weekends, when all its members can be together.

Value of a Program

However, simply being with one another is not sufficient. For real blessings and benefits to be realized from family association there must be communication and a doing of things together. Experiences, ideas, activities, hopes and plans need to be shared. This is where advance planning is helpful. A program will keep you from straying off course and from becoming involved with the nonessentials of life. It will keep the family hour from deteriorating into a silent evening in front of a television screen,

or a weekend on which each family member goes his separate way.

For best results it is important that the program be flexible. Let each member of the family have a voice in what they would enjoy doing, but then the father should maintain order and provide direction by making final decisions. Use imagination. Do different things. Do not allow the family hour to become a monotonous routine. On some evenings or weekends you may have more time available than on others, so plan activities accordingly. Keep interest alive. Perhaps one occasion may be devoted to sharing in just one activity or project, while another may be spent doing a variety of things together. The father can be the timekeeper and change activities when he sees fit.

At times a theme might be arranged for the family hour, such as, for example, "family understanding" or "growing up together in love." The activities planned for that occasion should then be tied in with the selected theme. This will give purpose to your time together, so that in addition to its being a period of fun, it will have a maturing effect.

What Can Be Done

There is an almost endless number of things that a family can do. But remember: It is not *what* is done that is so important, but rather *the doing of worthwhile things together*. For example, in the springtime the family can put the yard in order, plant some flowers or some vegetables. In the summertime they may go for walks, motoring, swimming, or on picnics. In the autumn, as a family, they might can food for the winter, rake leaves, build bonfires, enjoy the harvest. In the winter they may go ice-skating, sleigh-riding or make ice cream with the freshly fallen snow.

By giving it a little thought, you will discover a great variety of things that the family can enjoy doing together. To create interest and anticipation, some families have a bulletin board on which their activities are posted. Others mark on their calendars the special family events planned. These calendars are then saved to keep track of what the family did during the year. In this way they can review the happy times they enjoyed together.

To gain the greatest benefit from family association, become doers of things and not simply observers. For example, when showing home movies, have one member of the family put up the screen, another arrange the chairs, someone else prepare the refreshments, another handle the operating of the machine, and so on. This teaches cooperation. Make the family hour one that is instructive, one that builds good traits, provides practical training and increases knowledge.

Developing Skills

Use the occasion to train children to develop skills and to find satisfaction in work, in a job well done. Teach them to view a task as a challenge instead of something to be endured. Impress upon their young minds the words of wise King Solomon: "Have you beheld a man skillful in his work? Before kings is where he will station himself; he will not station himself before commonplace men." (Prov. 22:29) Being skillful brings joy to the workman. And having skills is like having friends. They help fill many hours with joy. But how may such "friends" be cultivated during the family hour?

Well, for instance, a particular evening could be set aside each week to develop a skill. There are many possibilities. Can you carve with a knife, paint with a brush, sketch with a pencil, weave a basket, mold objects from clay, make a pair of mocca-

sins, a belt or other things from leather? Every experience with tools and raw materials is a venture into the unknown. Each item that we make ourselves develops inner confidence and an appreciation for things. True, it will take organizing and initiative to incorporate a project like this into your family program, but it can prove well worth the effort.

On the other hand, your family may like music. If so, they might enjoy working together to develop skill in playing musical instruments. Or your "happy hour" may simply be when all gather around the piano and join voices in song. Whatever the song, if it is sung with the whole heart, troubles melt and spirits soar. For this reason some families make it a point regularly to sing some songs together. They find it uplifting every time.

Learning Practical Things

The family can have a lot of fun learning practical things together. For example, learning how to sew. In some European countries children learn to sew and knit before they go to school, with even the boys becoming experts. This does not mean that they are sissies; to the contrary, it enables them to do things for themselves and not have to depend on others. A young man may have to sew a sail or a tent or his own trousers someday. And the daughter who learns to make many of her own clothes becomes the efficient housewife who can keep her children and herself attractively outfitted on a limited clothing budget.

So consider this for a practical family hour: Everyone goes through his belongings and gathers all the things that need mending. Then they sit down and, all together, sew on missing buttons, mend socks and repair torn clothing. Could that not be an enjoyable hour together? Not only would the family have the satisfaction of helping mother do a necessary job, but the children would receive practical training as well.

The family hour could also be used to teach family members to cook and bake. It can be great fun working together to bake a cake, or to make some cookies or pies. The product will be appreciated much more by the family if they have a share in its production. The children can be instructed in different steps of the procedure until they are adept in cooking and baking various things themselves. What a sense of accomplishment they will have in making something that the rest of the family enjoys!

Another idea is to have a take-it-apart-and-see-how-it-works night. The family could examine the workings of an old clock, strip a radio or take apart a pair of scales. Such an evening might also be used to fix the bicycle, the venetian blinds, leaky faucets, broken picture frames or what have you. There are so many gadgets and appliances today, and your family may obtain a great deal of pleasure from examining how they work.

Parents can also teach children how to use books, interview people, plan trips, evaluate their work, and so forth. In training them to cope with problems a five-year-old might be asked, What would you do if you got lost? What should you do? To an older child the question might be, What would you do if you were in a foreign land and lost your passport? Teach them what they should do in emergencies; then without warning spring an emergency problem and see how they react. Discuss what is good taste in dress and language. Impress on their minds what are proper manners and the value of exercising them.

Educational Tours

On the weekends families may be able to arrange to take educational tours together.

Wherever you live, there are many interesting things to see. Have you visited a chicken farm, a dairy, an auction or a printing plant? Have you seen an apple orchard in bloom or at picking time? Stop at a cider mill someday and taste the sweet cider as it comes out of the presses. Plan your tours with the family. Cultivate interest in them. The Chamber of Commerce will give you facts about your city. They will tell you about the industries in your vicinity that welcome visitors.

While it may be impossible to travel to other countries, there are ways that your family can become acquainted with peoples of other lands. For instance, you may be able to invite someone from another country to dinner, and then probe him with questions concerning the customs, work, religion and attitudes of people there. Then too, by means of information in books and magazines a family can tour through the lands and among the peoples of other places. A wealth of such information has been printed in the *Awake!* magazine, and it can be located by consulting the *Watch Tower Publications Index.*

Cultivate Appreciation for Spiritual Values

A chief objective of the family hour should be to unite the family in worship of God and to cultivate appreciation for spiritual values. Even at a very early age children can understand and benefit from Bible accounts concerning David and Goliath, Ruth and Naomi, Jonah and the big fish, Daniel in the lions' den, the three Hebrews in the fiery furnace and young Jesus astounding the teachers in the temple with his knowledge. Make your descriptions live and the children will enjoy hearing them. Work in a moral with each story and be sure that the children get the point.

For example, when telling about Achan and his theft of the beautiful Babylonian garment, emphasize the importance of honesty. As a family discuss what it means to be honest. Make a list of the different types of honesty. Achan took what did not belong to him. (Josh. 7:1-26) Ananias and his wife Sapphira lied and paid with their lives. (Acts 5:1-11) So honesty is keeping one's word, one's promises, doing one's share, not taking credit for someone else's work, not cheating, not deceiving, taking blame for your mistakes, returning what you borrow, not taking things that belong to others, speaking and living the truth. Teach children that God loves honesty.

As you discuss Bible characters, highlight the qualities that made them pleasing to God. Endeavor to develop within your children the faith of Abraham, the loyalty of Ruth, the courage of David, the patience of Job, the integrity of the three Hebrews and the unquenchable love of our Master, Jesus Christ. At the same time warn them against the bad course of those persons who displeased God. It is this type of instruction that will have the most beneficial and lasting effect on your children.

Truly, the hours you spend with your family will be among the happiest and most worthwhile of your life. They will bring your family closer together in a warm relationship. They will strengthen the ties between parents and children by offering an opportunity to talk with one another about hopes, problems and plans in a friendly, family atmosphere. Children will become more respectful to parents and to other people. They will learn the value of money, good books, good music, good work and good play. They will learn obedience, loyalty, confidence, cooperation and the wisdom of applying Scriptural principles in daily living, thus strengthening faith and belief in God. Certainly there are good reasons to set aside time and to plan a program of worthwhile activities with your family!

What Has Happened to the UNITED NATIONS?

LOCKED in a bitter quarrel over finances, the United Nations has come closer to the brink of collapse than at any other time in its twenty-year history. So serious is the dispute that the nineteenth session of the General Assembly was compelled to adjourn on February 18 until September, without having voted on a single piece of business from the time it opened on December 1, 1964. This dangerous impasse as well as the position in world affairs that the UN has come to hold was not what its founders hoped for it.

In 1945, at San Francisco, California, U.S.A., fifty nations signed the United Nations Charter with high hopes. In the first chapter of the Charter, they set out the purpose of the UN, which, among other things, was: "To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace." To make this possible, all members, as stated in chapter seven, were to make available to the Security Council "armed forces, assistance and facilities."

Repeatedly since 1945, political and religious leaders have hailed the United Nations as the world's only hope for peace. When former U.S. President Kennedy addressed the General Assembly in 1961, he expressed this hope, saying that if the nations were "to enfeeble its vigor, to cripple its powers, we would condemn our future. For in the development of this organization rests the only true alternative to war." The very crisis that confronts the United Nations has resulted from its members' "enfeebling its vigor."

Assessments

Assessments for peace-keeping missions to the Congo and the Middle East are at the crux of the dispute. The Soviet Union, France and eleven other nations have failed to pay all these assessments. This has been a major reason why the UN has accumulated on its books about $136 million in assessments that have not been paid, bringing it close to bankruptcy. Of this amount, $60 million is owed by the Soviet Union and $16 million by France.

It is the claim of the Soviet Union that the peace-keeping assessments are illegal because the missions for which the money was used were not approved by the Security Council but were ordered by the General Assembly. France also balked at paying for the Congo mission and UN expenses in the Middle East during the 1956 Suez crisis. She regards both operations as illegal, as both were ordered by the Gen-

eral Assembly rather than by the Security Council.

That the General Assembly can order peace-keeping missions, although the United Nations Charter vests that power solely in the Security Council, vexes the nonpaying countries. France and Russia, for example, cannot use their veto in the General Assembly to stop missions they dislike, and they refuse to pay for missions they disapprove or that might be against their national interests.

It was the Uniting for Peace Resolution in 1950 that gave to the General Assembly the power to override the Security Council when a veto there rendered it powerless to act. The Suez crisis in 1956 was the first time it was used. On that occasion the Security Council could do nothing because of the vetoes of France and Great Britain.

Despite objections to the assessments for peace-keeping operations that the nonpaying nations did not approve, the United States is taking the lead in demanding that they pay. The International Court of Justice at The Hague ruled in July 1962 that the charges were legal and part of the obligations of the members of the United Nations. Since Article 19 of the United Nations Charter states that a member nation will lose its vote in the General Assembly when it becomes two years in arrears with its payments, the claim is made that these nations have no right to vote until they make the payments they owe. The United States has stated publicly that she will challenge any effort on the part of these nations to vote. This threat has paralyzed the General Assembly since December 1964, causing it to use all manner of chicanery to avoid a vote.

In no uncertain terms the Soviet Union made it known that, if it is denied its vote, it will withdraw from the United Nations. This could mean the death of that world body. Already one nation has withdrawn—Indonesia. The withdrawal of Indonesia in January was not because of assessments but because Malaysia, which she regards as an enemy, was given a seat in the Security Council. Other nations have threatened withdrawal from time to time.

Portugal spoke about withdrawing when her troubles in Angola were under discussion in the UN. The threat was also made by South Africa at the time her race policies were condemned in the United Nations. Britain hinted at withdrawing support from the Congo operation in 1961 because of the UN's emphasis on eliminating colonialism instead of attending to peace-keeping problems. Foreign Secretary Lord Home said: "If the emphasis is taken off the first duty of the UN, peacemaking and security, and laid on the acceleration of independence and the eradication of colonialism, which is a subsidiary issue, then the UN . . . would sow the seeds of its own destruction. . . . Matters could come to such a pass that we should have to *withdraw our support.*"

If a big power such as the Soviet Union carries out its threat to quit the UN, a trend would undoubtedly be started in which other nations would follow. The fall of the League of Nations began in that manner. When Japan withdrew from it, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Italy and a number of Latin-American countries gradually pulled out. By 1939 a third of the League's members had withdrawn. So if the assessment issue causes the Soviet Union, and other nonpaying nations, to withdraw, the UN could no longer function as a world organization. The assessment issue, therefore, has brought the United Nations to the brink of the same abyss into which the League of Nations toppled.

Greatly Weakened

Many persons at the founding of the United Nations envisioned it as a supranational organization with the military might to enforce its decisions. It would then be able to do as its Charter states: "To maintain international peace and security" and to "take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace." In Korea, the Congo, Middle East and Cyprus it has done just that, but now it may not be expected to do so again.

Faced with the threatened withdrawal of a number of nations that refuse to pay for peace-keeping missions they dislike, efforts are being made to work out a compromise that will circumvent Article 19 and save the UN from collapse. If this is done, it will probably mean that future military operations by the UN will have to be entirely on a voluntary basis, which, necessarily, would confine the missions to small operations, as the one in Cyprus. Without the collective membership sharing the heavy financial burden of military operations, an undertaking like the one in the Congo, which lasted four years and cost over 433 million dollars, would be out of the question. That one mission cost more than five times the annual UN budget. Loss of this peace-keeping power means a decided weakening of the UN.

Failure of the United Nations on a number of occasions to fulfill its role as a maintainer of international peace and security has shown up its weakness as a peace agency. It could do nothing when the Hungarian people were in need of help in 1956. It sat on the sidelines when India invaded the Portuguese territories of Goa, Damão and Diu on December 18, 1961. It sent none of its troops to Laos when that country faced a crisis in 1961, and it has been able to do nothing more than to urge negotiations in Vietnam. When Tibet appealed for help at the time of the Chinese military action in that country, the UN could do no more than pass a resolution deploring the events in Tibet. The selfish nationalistic interests of UN members have shackled it as a world peace-keeping agency time and time again.

When the veto of the Soviet Union immobilized the UN at the time India invaded Goa, Damão and Diu, and India, a member of the UN, stated that she would continue the invasion regardless of "whatever anyone else may think, Charter or no Charter, Council or no Council," the United States representative to the UN observed: "Tonight we are witnessing the first act in a drama which could end with the death of the United Nations. The veto of the Soviet Union is consistent with its long role of obstruction. But I find the attitude of some other members of the Council profoundly disturbing and ominous because we have witnessed tonight an effort to sanction the use of force when it suits one's own purpose. This approach can only lead to chaos and to the disintegration of the United Nations."

The destruction of the United Nations as a peace agency is within the power of its members. Whenever they violate its Charter to further their own national interests and frustrate its efforts to maintain peace, they pull bricks out of its supporting pillars. In time they can bring the entire organization tumbling down in a heap of rubble and shattered dreams.

Commenting on the destructive effect of the conflicting political interests of its powerful members in particular, the Brazilian newspaper *O Globo* said in its issue of October 22, 1956: "World peace is . . . threatened by the conflicting political interests of the great powers. But these are exactly the ones that give existence,

strength and significance to the international associations. Being that these are the circumstances, it is very difficult for these interests to be sacrificed for peace, and so the associations transform themselves, little by little, into an instrument of the national politics of the great powers. It was that that corrupted irremediably the League of Nations and ended up destroying it."

Voting

A cause for growing uneasiness among the big powers is the fact that each member nation in the General Assembly is entitled to one vote. This arrangement seemed satisfactory to the big powers in 1945 when there were only fifty nations and the balance of voting power was among the Western nations. With the breaking up of colonialism in Asia and Africa, which has resulted in the birth of a great number of small new nations, the membership of the United Nations has leaped to 114. This has resulted in a shifting of the balance of voting power, causing some of the Western powers to lose influence in the UN. Small nations, on the basis of one vote per nation, can now muster a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly for passing resolutions, and yet they represent only 10 percent of the world's population and pay only a small fraction of the UN's expenses.

President de Gaulle expressed the French view of the present trend of the UN under the influence of the smaller nations. He said that many of the new UN members are "improvised states and believe it their duty to stress grievances or demands with regard to older nations, rather than elements of reason and progress. . . . So that now the meetings are no more than riotous and scandalous sessions where there is no way to organize an objective debate, and which are filled with invective and insults. And then, as the United Nations becomes a scene of disturbance, confusion and division, it acquires the ambition to intervene in all kinds of matters. . . . It is anxious to assert itself—even by force of arms—as it did in the Congo. The result is that it carries to the local scene its global incoherence, the personal conceptions of its various agents and the individual partiality of each of the states, which send their contingents with their own orders—send them, then withdraw them. Under these conditions, France does not see how she can adopt any other attitude toward the United—or Disunited—Nations than that of the greatest reserve. . . . She does not wish to contribute her men or her money to any present or eventual [military] undertaking of this organization—or disorganization."

The United States is well aware of the gradual shift in voting power, and some observers conclude that she would not be unhappy to see the General Assembly lose the power to order military undertakings. With the balance of voting power shifting to the smaller nations, the circumstances could come about where she could find herself in a position where she would be required to pay assessments for a mission that is against her interests.

Suspecting that this may be the underlying motive behind the determination of the United States to press the issue of assessments, some Afro-Asian nations have accused the United States and the Soviet Union of being in collusion, rather than on a collision course. They claim that the present crisis in the UN was planned so as to trim the power of the General Assembly where the small, new nations are growing in number and voting power. Although it seems unlikely that the United States and the Soviet Union would be in collusion to

bring the United Nations to the brink of collapse, there can be little doubt that both would like to see the power to order peace-keeping missions taken from the General Assembly and invested solely in the Security Council, where a veto can be used to stop military missions that might not be to their liking.

Power politics among the member nations of the UN that form the East, West and neutral blocs as well as the consuming self-interest of its members are steadily destroying that world organization as a peace-keeping body. Its members can give it life by cooperating toward attaining the objectives of its Charter or they can kill it by their nationalistic selfishness that puts their own interests ahead of UN interests.

Bypassing the United Nations

Contributing measurably to the growing weakness of the United Nations is the practice of the big powers to decide important issues among themselves rather than taking them to the UN. The historic test-ban treaty that was signed in 1963 by Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union was negotiated outside the United Nations. The big powers bargained among themselves for the settlement of the dispute in Laos in 1962 without turning to the UN. Eight years before this, in 1954, the UN was not called upon to settle the military conflict in Indochina, but the big powers negotiated a settlement at Geneva. Even when this conference discussed the uniting of Korea, the UN did not participate. In fact, the armistice that brought the Korean War to an end in 1953 was not negotiated through the machinery of the United Nations, but was chiefly a United States' affair.

Berlin is a crisis spot that has brought the East and the West dangerously close to the brink of war on more than one occasion, but the UN has had no hand in settling any of the touchy situations that have arisen there. The Cuban crisis in 1962 was not settled by the United Nations but by negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union after an extremely dangerous confrontation by the two. Thus with the big powers of the world ignoring the UN as the place to take their explosive differences, preferring instead private negotiations, the UN is weakened. Carlos Rómulo, a former president of the United Nations General Assembly, commented on this practice back in 1954: "Members of the United Nations," he said, "are more and more taking the great political issues outside the framework of the organization, rendering the UN little more than a debating society."

Although the United Nations has been hailed as "the only true alternative to war," it has not been able to stop the world's march toward the abyss of nuclear conflict. The danger of such a war is far greater now than when the UN began twenty years ago. Instead of its being a force for uniting the nations, it is fractured by their differences and weakened by their selfish, nationalistic interests. What has thus happened to the United Nations has more than passing interest to Bible students because the Bible foretold that this man-made peace agency would fall. Man's hope for lasting world peace is certain of realization only by the kingdom of God.

The assessment crisis that now tears at the vitals of the United Nations may not immediately destroy it, but it will most certainly leave it greatly weakened in prestige and power. What has happened to the United Nations since its founding is a strong argument against the worshipful claim that it is mankind's only hope for world peace.

WHEN we think of danger from the sea, our mind is likely to see a shark with its formidable teeth and its imposing size. There are, however, some types of innocent-looking marine life that can be even more deadly to the unwary person than the shark.

Among the most interesting of these harmless-looking creatures is a jellyfish called the Portuguese man-of-war. Travelers visiting the warmer seas for the first time are often amazed to see a flotilla of purple balloons or floats; it is as if they were mysteriously dropped into the sea. Then as the ship approaches, the whole fleet of bluish balloons may disappear below the waves. Startling indeed!

But why call this creature the Portuguese man-of-war, and how can it be dangerous? It is thought that the name for this jellyfish originated from a comparison with the ancient galleons of Portugal. Like those ancient war vessels, this legless, finless marvel not only bristles with weapons but it can sail or travel before the wind.

The float or "sail" is quite a marvel in itself. Strikingly pretty, it may be colored a brilliant azure blue, perhaps with some orange, scarlet or orchid. The float of a mature animal may be as large as a foot in length and about half as wide and high. It is crested on the top by a narrow ridge of air sacs. These form a "sail" that can be raised or lowered at will, enabling this finless marvel to travel. If things get too rough on the surface, the man-of-war deflates its float and sinks beneath the waves. But its "sail" can soon be inflated again by means of a built-in gas-generating mechanism.

Poison like the Cobra's

But the float is not the whole animal; in fact, the Portuguese man-of-war is thought to be in itself a colony of specialized individuals. By the masses of sting-studded tentacles streaming beneath it, some of which are perhaps forty or fifty feet long, it catches its food. Woe to the persons who think this creature is but a weak and "spineless jellyfish" and try to catch it. Potent is the venom in those thousands of stinging cells. In its crude form the poison is about 75 percent as poisonous as the venom of the deadly cobra, and, like cobra poison, it works on the nervous system.

With its maze of tentacles, the Portuguese man-of-war might be said to have built-in fishing tackle. If a fish brushes against one of the tentacles, a thousand harpoonlike hypodermics instantly inject a tiny drop of poison. The victim is paralyzed and the tentacles wrap themselves tightly around the prey, which may be as large as a mackerel. Up go the tentacles, like elevators, to deliver the catch to an array of sticky mouths. Immediately the mouths begin wiggling and squirming to attach themselves to the fish. Once attached,

they begin to expand and spread out around the fish, enwrapping it in a bag, as it were, and then it is digested.

However, at least two animals do not seem to mind close contact with the man-of-war. One is a small bluish fish known as *Nomeus,* which swims among the potent tentacles with apparent indifference to them and without being harmed. The other is the loggerhead turtle, which has been known to swim right into an armada of men-of-war and to begin champing away on them, making them a tasty meal. One observer says that the turtle closes its eyes and gulps the man-of-war whole, perhaps swimming off with tentacles streaming out of its mouth.

Portuguese men-of-war are a familiar sight on Caribbean shores. Sometimes they are carried by the Gulf Stream and winds along the Atlantic coast of the United States, with some being deposited on the beaches. There the gas-filled balloons dry up, and when they are stepped on they explode with a loud pop, much to the delight of small boys. But beware! Children who jump on these floats barefooted or take hold of the purplish tentacles are asking for trouble. The tentacles retain their stinging power for a considerable period after the animal has died.

Swimmers must be especially cautious. They can easily be stung if they get too close to men-of-war. Getting stung by one is like getting stung by a swarm of bees. It might be fatal, especially since the swimmer may not be able to make it to shore without help.

When a man-of-war's tentacles touch human flesh, a red welt is raised like the lash mark of a whip. The agony from many stings can be excruciating. Severe stings can cause cramps, nausea and difficulty in breathing. What will bring some relief as well as put out of commission any undischarged stingers are organic solvents such as alcohol or dilute ammonia and alcohol. Treat the Portuguese man-of-war with utmost caution. Give it a wide berth whether you are swimming or walking on the shore.

Cone Shells

A stinging animal that may be far more dangerous than the man-of-war is the cone shell. This cone-shaped marine snail is confined mainly to tropical seas. In its snout is a barbed daggerlike tooth connected to a poison sac. The cone dines on fish, crabs and possibly on other cones.

Though the cone shell's poisonous dagger is used primarily for food-getting, it is also used in self-defense. "Recently in Queensland, Australia," says R. Tucker Abbott, "the effectiveness of the cone shell's defense was demonstrated during the course of a shell-collecting trip on the reef. An 18-inch octopus had been captured and put alive in an enamel pail of sea water. Later a venomous cone shell was found and dropped in with the octopus. In a few minutes the latter began to attack the cone shell with its customary procedure by placing one of its tentacles across the mouth of the shell. Under normal circumstances it takes an octopus a few minutes to dig and suck the snail animal from its shell, but in this case it suddenly withdrew its hold, waving its tentacles about in violent agitation. Immediately after the retreat of the octopus, the tiny, needle-like radula of the cone shell could be seen slowly withdrawing into the snail's proboscis. A few minutes later the octopus shed one of its tentacles. Although the creature was soon transferred to a well-aerated tank of fresh sea water, it was found dead the following morning."*

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* *The Science Counselor,* quoted in *Sea Treasure,* p. 159.

Unless one is an expert and knows what he is doing, it would be better to leave tropical cone shells alone. In the book *Sea Treasure,* Kathleen Yerger Johnstone tells how natives of the island of Okinawa would bring cones to scientists who were making a study of them. Then she tells of "a woman who had skillfully picked up a poisonous cone and put it with other shells in the bag she carried over her shoulder. The cone crept out of its shell, thrust its proboscis through the loosely woven bag, and stabbed her in the back."

ARTICLES IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- The Quest for a Stable World.
- Hypnosis—Is It Safe?
- Why Is Religion on the Decline in Sweden?
- Are You Coming to Basel?

Seafood Poisoning

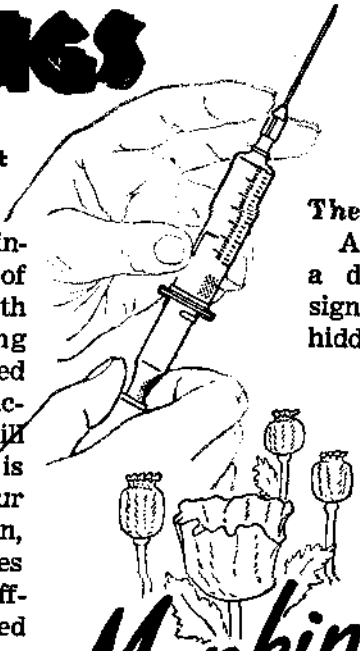
There is danger, not only from eating seafood that has been improperly cleaned or that has spoiled, but also from eating sea life that in itself is poisonous. For example, it is known that at certain seasons shellfish such as clams and oysters feed on poisonous planktonic food, which becomes so plentiful at times that it is called the "red tide." The two-valved shellfish that feed on the "red tide" during the warm months become poisonous to man, although they do not seem to be affected themselves. They can assimilate enough poison from the plankton to kill a man. So there is some scientific basis for the old saying, "Only eat oysters during the months with an 'r' in them." Dr. Hallstead, in the book *Dangerous Marine Animals,* writes: "The extremely toxic nature of this poison cannot be over-emphasized. One should adhere strictly to local quarantine regulations—they are for your protection. Poisonous shellfish cannot be detected by their appearance, smell, or by discoloration of a silver object or garlic placed in the cooking water, etc. ad infinitum."

Although there are several species of fish that are poisonous to eat, they number only a few of the hundreds of varieties of seafood that are very delicious and tasty. However, even some of the deadly varieties of fish, when specially prepared, are eaten by some people. For example, the poisonous puffer is considered a delicacy by some persons in Japan. Specially trained cooks prepare puffer, called *fugu,* to render it fit for human consumption. Nevertheless, in spite of the precautions taken, it is reported that *fugu* consumption is still the number one cause of fatal food poisoning in Japan, and 60 percent of the victims of puffer poisoning die from it.

When contemplating the dangers involved in eating the scaleless puffer and similar poisonous fishes, one is reminded of the advice recorded by Moses in the Bible at Deuteronomy 14:9, 10: "This sort out of everything that is in the waters you may eat: Everything that has fins and scales you may eat. And everything that has no fins and scales you must not eat. It is unclean for you." Says Dr. Hallstead: "This advice is still recommended in modern American military survival manuals."

Truly, as for the sea, "there there are moving things without number, living creatures, small as well as great." (Ps. 104: 25) Not all of these amazing creatures are suitable or even desirable as food for humans or safe to be handled. It is the course of wisdom to endeavor to understand the sea and the life it contains before venturing among its creatures about which one may know very little. Realize that dangerous things can come from the sea.

PAIN-KILLING DRUGS



—Mankind's Strange Friends

By "Awake!" correspondent in Australia

"I SHALL greatly increase the pain of your pregnancy; in birth pangs you will bring forth children." "Cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce." This is the judgment that our first parents, in Eden, brought upon themselves and upon us their offspring when they turned their backs on God. Since then men of all kinds, wicked and righteous, have felt the effects and have in many ways sought relief. In the process they have made some strange friends.

Friends willing and able to relieve your headaches and pains would be welcome in your home, would they not? However, if you thought your household's health was being insidiously undermined you would be cautious. Suppose you discovered that one of these friends had already made slaves of many, driven some to loose living and crime, tormented others and sent multitudes to an early grave; you would be alarmed. If, in unbearable pain, you felt compelled to call him, you would be well advised to have police supervision.

Tablets to relieve our aches and pains, often called analgesics, are treated as friends in a multitude of homes. The opium family of potent pain-killing drugs has been described as "a great boon to suffering humanity." They can also be treacherous "friends."

The Mild Pain-killing Drugs

Aches and pains are not in themselves a disease—they are merely outward signs of some less obvious and perhaps hidden derangement of health. Tension, eyestrain, fatigue, rheumatism, constipation and dietary indiscretions are but a few of the possible causes. To remove the warning by means of pain-killing drugs, without giving attention to the cause, is certainly shortsighted. Yet relief from pain is sometimes badly needed.

In spite of the large number of pain-killing preparations constantly brought to our attention, the number of different medicinal substances in use is surprisingly small. Many countries require the manufacturer to disclose the composition of his preparation. Because the action of each of these drugs has been the subject of much study we will avoid trade names and use the drug names familiar to the pharmaceutical chemist. Look for such names on the label, rather than paying attention to extravagant statements, and it is wise to learn the merits and disadvantages of each.

Acetylsalicylic acid, for example, is aspirin and is highly effective in many conditions and, considering the vast quantity used, it is relatively safe. Acetanilide was, a generation ago, a common ingredient of

headache powders, but because of its undesirable side effects it has been largely replaced by its close chemical relative, phenacetin.

However, all may not be well with phenacetin (also called acetophenetidin). The British edition of *The Medical Letter* of December 14, 1962, says: "For the present, physicians should not encourage the use of phenacetin, and labels on 'over-the-counter' products containing the drug should give clear and emphatic warnings against excessive use . . . On the basis of the available evidence, it seemed likely that an equivalent dose of aspirin would relieve pain as effectively as a phenacetin-aspirin-caffeine combination, and aspirin might be safer than phenacetin for long-term use." However, in Britain over thirty preparations containing phenacetin are sold directly to the public, some being heavily advertised, and a further thirty are advertised to the medical profession.

The action of phenacetin in the body is due to its transformation to para-ceta-mol (acetaminophen), which is responsible for most, if not all of its pain-relieving action. The logical step, therefore, was to prepare and test paracetamol. Thus, a new and useful drug has appeared and it does not appear to have the disadvantages of phenacetin. Medical men, nevertheless, have this word of caution: "Phenacetin has been used as an analgesic for seventy years, but only comparatively recently have its potentialities for damaging red cells and the kidney been recognised. Paracetamol has been widely used for only a few years, and its potentialities for producing red-cell or renal (kidney) damage are at present not fully known." (*Prescribers' Journal*, March 1963) The best medical authorities are thus expressing their doubts about phenacetin and give a cautious recommendation to paracetamol.

Caffeine, which is also used as a drug, is present in tea and coffee. It stimulates mental processes, wards off fatigue and is of value in nervous headache and migraine. It is usually used in combination with aspirin and phenacetin or codeine.

For the pain associated with rheumatic diseases, salicylamide and sodium salicylate are used, but they are not regarded as more effective than aspirin or paracetamol. Phenazone (antipyrin), amidopyrin and phenylbutazone belong to one chemical family of drugs, and they relieve painful and swollen joints. In the treatment of rheumatic conditions medical men now tend to use these last-named three with caution—or not at all. In relieving pain of rheumatoid arthritis good authorities still regard aspirin as the most effective and safest drug for long-term administration.

Today's most popular pain-killing preparations depend much for their medicinal properties on the drugs we have discussed. Of these, aspirin and paracetamol probably have the least known side effects.

The relief of severe pain, such as is associated with serious accidents, major operations and advanced stages of cancer, however, is far beyond the power of the drugs just discussed. So is the pain associated with childbirth. What drugs are available in this field?

The Powerful Pain-killing Drugs

The *British Medical Journal* of January 15, 1949, in referring to the views of a well-known English physician of a former generation says: "Most doctors will agree with Sydenham that they would not wish to practice medicine if denied the use of opium." The pain-killing qualities of opium have been known for over 2,000 years. Opium is the air-dried milky juice obtained by cutting the unripe capsules of the oriental poppy plant, which is cultivated in Asia Minor. Named after

Morpheus, the god of dreams, the most important of several active principles was isolated from opium in 1805 and called morphine (morphia). Ten percent of good medicinal opium is morphine. Heroin and codeine are close chemical relatives of morphine, and these, together with a few recently discovered man-made drugs, complete the physician's arsenal against severe pain. All have one dreadful quality in common. Their use can lead to addiction.

If morphine is given daily for relief of pain, the regular dose soon becomes insufficient. Gradually increasing doses pleasantly stimulate the brain, and all worries are forgotten for the time being. Soon a craving for increasing doses is established and the addict will do anything to get his narcotic. By now it is not so much the pleasure that morphine gives, but, rather, the intense misery that the lack of it induces, that drives the addict to crime. Before long, enormous doses are needed to satisfy him. Meantime a steady mental and physical deterioration sets in. In this state of drug intoxication he subordinates everything to his craving. He becomes unreliable, immoral and depraved. Mental processes are diminished and in time he becomes a physical and mental wreck. Some, not lending themselves so completely, may feel fairly normal while taking their drug. However, indescribable suffering, sometimes with disastrous results, follows an abrupt withdrawal. The likelihood of complete cure without a relapse is small.

Few addicts became such as the result of medical treatment. But opium, heroin and morphine purchased from drug peddlers have ruined the lives of millions of humans. According to a British Government White Paper published in 1959, the Colony of Hong Kong has between 150,000 and 250,000 narcotic addicts. Such is the record of the family of drugs that has for centuries occupied a supreme place in medicine for the relief of pain. How do you feel about these friends?

In recent years the most vigorous efforts, on an international scale, have been made to restrict the use of these drugs to the alleviating of extreme pain. Under the protection of the "Dangerous Drugs Regulations" specially trained government inspectors enforce stringent controls on the import, manufacture, sale and possession of narcotic drugs. Every transaction must be recorded and the drugs must be kept in locked cupboards accessible only to authorized persons. Doctors are warned that the "continued supply of dangerous drugs to a patient solely for the gratification of addiction" is not considered legitimate. However, in Britain an addict is considered a sick man and the government accepts the doctor's professional judgment as to who is in need of drugs and how much. The patient merely takes his prescription to his chemist, who dispenses it for 2/- (25c U.S.). Although this means that large quantities of very expensive drugs are provided virtually free, it does keep addiction "above the ground." No sizable underworld traffic exists. Obviously few would pay large sums for something that could be procured for a free doctor's consultation plus 2/-.

Nevertheless, of the 532 known British addicts, it was noted that 57 belonged to the medical profession and "allied groups." Yes, these drugs bringing so much relief to those in pain can also be terrors—and claim victims from among the very restricted group authorized to administer their blessings! Indeed, amazing friends!

Alleviating Extreme Pain

Morphine and heroin are white powders which, dissolved in water, come packed in sealed, sterilized glass containers called

ampoules, each sufficient for one injection. Morphine is the most valuable of all analgesics, especially for persistent pain, though it is apt to give rise to nausea, constipation and depression of breathing. It also has a sedative action and this makes it the drug of choice for sleeplessness due to severe pain. Along with heroin it is used in the terminal stages of cancer. Heroin is di-acetyl-morphine and is prepared from morphine. It is a much more powerful pain-killer but has a duration of action of only two hours, compared with the six-hour duration of morphine. It is particularly useful in otherwise uncontrollable pain of patients about to die.

Heroin is the most dangerous and vicious drug of addiction. Its importation and manufacture are prohibited in most countries, including Australia and the United States. Many have favored its total abolition. In Britain the use of heroin by medical men has been discouraged for a number of years but not prohibited. More recently these views appear to have been modified. Heroin was deleted from the *British Pharmacopoeia* in 1953 because of pressure from the narcotics control authorities, but it has reappeared in the 1963 edition.

Codeine is methyl morphine but it has only one-sixth of the analgesic potency of morphine. Addiction to codeine can occur but is unusual. If your doctor thinks that your headache is too severe for aspirin to handle he may prescribe codeine. Codeine, too, is controlled by the "Dangerous Drugs Regulations" in many countries, but a combination of aspirin, caffeine and a small dose of codeine is, in most cases, exempt. However, codeine is constipating.

The Pharmaceutical Chemist's Headache

Because of the disadvantages associated with the opium family of pain-killers, large sums of money have been spent in the last thirty-five years to discover a pain-killing drug comparable to morphine but with little or no tendency to cause addiction. Synthetic compounds by the hundred have been tried and discarded. Methadone and pethidine (meperidine) are two that are widely used, but both are drugs of addiction. Here, then, is one of the pharmaceutical chemist's greatest problems. Is it possible to drive a wedge between potent pain-killing power on the one hand and liability to addiction on the other? All efforts have failed. The ideal pain-killer has not been found. The search continues. Pain is part of the dying process, which only God can reverse. Do you remember his promise, 'neither will death nor pain be any more'?

Methadone was introduced in Germany during the second world war and is a pain-killer of at least equal power to morphine. However, it possesses only one-quarter of its sedative action and is therefore inferior to morphine.

Pethidine, discovered by accident in 1939, though less powerful, can be used instead of morphine in the relief of all types of pain. Its property of not inducing sleep makes it useful in alleviating the pain associated with childbirth. A trained maternity nurse with twenty years' experience says the following concerning pain-killing drugs used in her profession:

"Woman's legacy of pain in childbearing has resulted in an attitude of fear and mental tension as labour commences, causing increased distress. To relax this condition, giving relief and allowing for better progress, various methods and combinations of drugs have been tried. Heroin, opium and morphine, the use of which need skill and judgment, due to the sleep-inducing action on the mother and consequently also the babe, have not been

entirely satisfactory. 'Twilight sleep' induced by hyoscine and morphine granted 'forgetfulness of pain' but rendered the patient restless and un-cooperative. The drug pethidine in recent years has provided a partial answer to our problems. It gives some relaxation and relief to the mother while she remains conscious and cooperative. Most valuable of all, the knowledge that relief is available allows for relaxation of mental tension and so better progress."

In harness these narcotic drugs can be most useful; on the loose they are badly behaved. If we say that all addictable drugs should be banned, then in the field of powerful pain-killers nothing would be left. But necessity requires that use of these dangerous drugs be carefully controlled.

For your own welfare it is good to know what effect each of these drugs can have. You ought to realize that, if you use them for any length of time, they may give rise to problems greater than the one with which you started. Some of the dangers are known; others are not readily apparent. Is the relief the drugs may give worth the risk to you? That is a question you must decide. You may find that they prove to be welcome friends in time of need, but seldom are their favors an unmixed blessing.

DISASTROUS DECEPTION

● Some persons have been induced by advertisements to buy an Ouija board, a device used in fortune-telling that consists of a small board marked with words and letters of the alphabet. In the book *Venture Inward*, Hugh L. Cayce tells of a man who brought home such a board to his young wife; a magazine article had recommended it as a possible way to communicate with the dead. They began to use the board and obtained answers to questions. The board said the answers came from dead friends or relatives. Soon the wife was told by the board that she could do automatic writing. So she took pencil and paper and, without effort or thought on her part, her hand would automatically write information such as the board would give. But one day while her husband was away, the woman "heard a soft whisper just back of her left ear." The more she responded to the suggestions of the whispering voice from the invisible realm, the clearer it became.

Finally, after several days, the voice became harsh and shrill; it said the woman was in "his" power. The voice said he was in love with this attractive woman and that he would bring her to "his plane" by killing her. The woman was told she would sicken of food and starve to death. Following this, she could hardly eat or even drink water without vomiting.

In desperation the woman began to fight the voice instead of giving in. The young woman found some relief in being in the company of others. But one morning after her husband got up early and left, she came under sexual attack. The report says: "In a few moments the woman was horrified as she became aware of a form in the bed with her. She was overcome with loathing and terror, yet was unable to prevent a sexual stimulation. . . . She escaped from the bed and wakened her daughters. She had found that when they were present the voice was less distinct and was frequently closed out altogether." Only after a great deal of fighting and effort was this woman able to return to near normalcy.

This tragic experience is one of many illustrating the folly of people trying to communicate with the dead, who are, as the Bible says, totally unconscious. (Eccl. 9:5, 10) But wicked spirits, demons, are very much alive. Those who use such things as Ouija boards and who respond to "voices" are putting themselves under the influence of these demons. These self-demonized angels turned disobedient to God because of an obsession with sex. (Jude 6; Gen. 6:1-4) The Holy Scriptures show them to be lying, wicked spirits, and they will eventually be destroyed along with the Devil. (Eph. 6:12; 1 Tim. 4:1; Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10, 14) But now, while they are still able to afflict mankind, one must follow the guidance of the Bible if one is to avoid coming under their corrupting control.

SPRING had returned again. The calendar indicated it was May 7, 1945. The warm rays of the rising sun shone forth in the brightest colors. It was only in the hearts of people caught in the most terrible human struggle of all time that this spring found no echo. The remaining heads of the third Reich came together with representatives of the Allied powers to sign the unconditional capitulation of Germany. The frightful second world war, an unparalleled time of destruction and horror, was now to end.

If someone wanted a picture of the extent of destruction on this seventh day of May two decades ago, he did not need to put forth much effort, as everywhere he looked—ruins, ruins, ruins! Cities such as Breslau, Cologne, Stettin and Wurzburg lay up to 75 percent in ruins. In Hamburg, the second-largest city in Germany at that time, 300,000 homes were destroyed. During these air raids 593,000 people lost their lives, and 80,000 of them were children under fourteen years of age. The lives of many survivers appeared to be as desperate as the twisted ruins of this holocaust.

People dwelt by the thousands in basements under devastated buildings in bombed-out cities. Smoke drifting up from the ruins or out of a basement window indicated that someone was eking out his miserable existence among this debris. In many homes hunger gnawed at empty stomachs, as a large percentage of commercial life had come to a standstill.

People clung to their lives, however, and tried to make the best out of the situation. They put together many primitive barracks. Due to the shortage of glass they nailed the windows up with boards. Slight rays of sunlight glimmered through the cracks. Who at this time of despair would have dared imagine modern well-lit business establishments and homes in place of ruins and rubble? But that which seemed impossible in these spring days of 1945 has become reality. Anyone traveling through Germany now will be witness to a remarkable rebuilding program.

Although housing problems in Germany have not been completely solved, as is also the case in other countries, that which has been accomplished is noteworthy. There were 12,033,000 homes in West Germany and West Berlin before the second world war, with some 43,000,000 people living in this territory. When World War II ended, 22 percent of the housing facilities had been destroyed.

As if this were not enough, a new problem arose: A stream of refugees out of the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany began flowing into West Germany and West Berlin. The homes that were already overcrowded had to take care of all these hundreds of thousands of persons. It appeared to be an unsolvable problem.

For a long time it looked as though this lamentable condition would experience no change during the lifetime of those who had survived this destruction. Were the victors at all interested in a change? Time seemed to stand still. But at that time many persons realized that more would be required for happiness than mere homes. Many sought comfort spiritually from the Word of God, the Bible. They were willing to hear about the comforting promises contained in the Bible. That divine Book offered hope, and hope was desperately needed.

The Signal for Rebuilding

The people of West Germany were surprised on Saturday, June 18, 1948, by the news that a new currency was being introduced. Would this be the signal to rebuild? The entire economy began to pulsate again. The new money seemed to exert an amazing influence. The hands of an entire nation suddenly began to move again. Along with this development the Marshall Plan also supported the endeavors of the West German economy through further financial aid. The German economic "miracle" was born.

One of the big jobs facing the new German government that started to function in 1949 was how to cope with the housing problem. For this reason the first law regulating home building was passed in 1950. This law differentiated between building projects with government aid, home building with reduced taxes and free financed home building. In the case of government-aided home building, money would be provided at very low rates of interest, in order that families with lower incomes could enjoy a reasonably priced home. The main supporters of these government-aided home-building projects have proved to be large construction companies building on a partnership basis, with those desiring a home each supplying part of the needed funds.

But not only the government took an active interest in the housing problem. In private fields strong movement could also be noticed. Private companies built their own housing districts and tried to keep their employees by providing them with housing accommodations. The wish of the people "to possess" manifested itself more and more.

What Was Achieved

Although the government policy has been criticized in political squabblings, the West German observer, considering the matter objectively, must admit that this tremendous job of rebuilding has been successful. Only in isolated cases does one see lots or ruins reminiscent of the terrible destruction of World War II. Some cities, it is true, have piled up the rubble from these destroyed buildings into huge mountains that serve as a warning reminder. In Stuttgart one-third of all the rubble from the city, of which 45 percent was destroyed, was heaped up at one location. It required 500,000 truckloads to move the 1,500,000 tons of rubble.

But now, where there were once phantom ruins, where people once lived in basements, there are architecturally beautiful buildings. Those traveling by car through Germany today see idyllically located housing districts with bungalows. In many sections spaciously planned suburban centers with large apartment houses, parks and shopping centers command the landscape.

What was actually accomplished along the line of home building? According to the annual statistical register there were, on December 31, 1964, in West Germany and West Berlin, 17,892,856 homes. In comparison with the prewar years this is an increase of over 5,800,000 homes. When

we take into consideration that 22 percent of the homes were destroyed during the war, this means that in the rebuilding since 1949, 8,000,000 new homes have been built. Since 1953, there have been new homes completed at the rate of one every minute, night and day. If the great number of business and office buildings and factories are added to these 8,000,000 new homes, then the rebuilding work is truly amazing.

About 50 percent of the homes can be attributed to the government-aided home-building program. During the period from 1950 to 1963, 170,000,000,000 DM were allotted for home building. The present fast home-building rate is supposed to continue for one to two years yet.

Continually more people strive for a home of their own. The many savings institutions in Germany all promise their customers they can have the desired "home of their own." Increased wealth among large sections of the population has not restricted the aspirations of the people to having merely a home, but, rather, they want their own "paradise."

Problems to Ponder

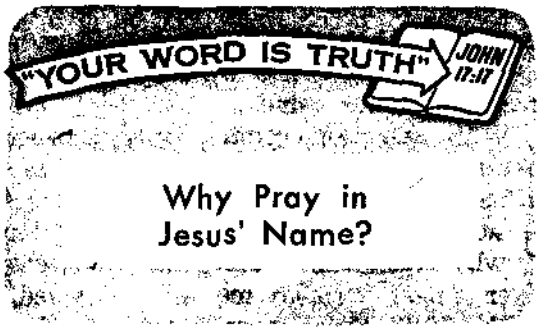
The enormous rebuilding accomplishment has brought problems. With the heightened desire to possess things, more autos are on the roads than ever before. A magazine article said: "The city builders that took up their work of rebuilding bombed out cities after the war, never dreamed of how rapidly the number of automobiles would increase. Automobiles influence the building of a city to a great extent."

Since more than 10,000,000 autos were registered in 1963, much money has to be spent to solve this unexpected problem. Spacious roads are being built to bypass cities as well as elevated roads or subways to reduce traffic congestion within the cities. Many cities have restricted traffic from their business districts. City planners are faced with a problem that is still awaiting a final solution.

But a problem of greater magnitude than accommodating autos now confronts Germany: The lack of a spiritual foundation for much of the remarkable rebuilding. Do those who so urgently prayed to God during the dark days of war continue to do so? Some do, but the nation as a whole has become noticeably indifferent toward spiritual matters. In some Protestant sections church attendance is only about 2 percent of the population—the same as in atheistic Russia!

This lack of spirituality was noted by the magazine *Stern,* in its article "God in Germany": "Religious sociologists have . . . released exact figures: In a typical large city congregation, only 0.9 percent of Lutheran church members regularly attend church every Sunday." Catholics, too, the article brings out, have gone materialistic in large numbers. In fact, in another issue *Stern* declares: " 'Nobody' believes any more; 'nobody' any longer goes to church." This lack of interest in spiritual things is shown when ministers call on people to discuss the Bible; in most cases they manifest no interest.

All this indicates that great numbers of people are building on the sands of materialism. It is a dangerous way to build. Since our future rests with God and not with our possessions, wise indeed are those who build to the future on a solid spiritual foundation. As Jesus Christ put it: "Everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who built his house upon the rock-mass. And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been founded upon the rock-mass."—Matt. 7:24, 25.



Why Pray in Jesus' Name?

JESUS CHRIST introduced a new feature to prayer when he told his followers: "Whatever it is that you ask in my name, I will do this." (John 14:13) Never before had Jehovah's people prayed in someone's name. Not even the name of Moses was used as the channel for prayer to God, although he had been a mediator between the nation of Israel and Jehovah God. It was just before Jesus' death that he revealed to his followers this new way to pray, which suggests why it is effective.

Acknowledging that prayer in his name was something new for his disciples, Jesus said: "Most truly I say to you, If you ask the Father for anything he will give it to you in my name. Until this present time you have not asked a single thing in my name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be made full." (John 16:23, 24) This they did from Pentecost of 33 C.E. on. There are very good reasons why prayer must be directed to Jehovah through Jesus Christ.

Notwithstanding Jesus' command, there are professed Christians today who do not customarily use Jesus' name in their prayers. They do not channel their prayers through him. This is particularly noticeable at American political gatherings, such as at party conventions and presidential inaugurations. The clergymen who lead these gatherings in an opening prayer do not usually pray in Jesus' name. But, contrary to their religious philosophies that regard the deletion of Jesus' name from prayers as being acceptable to God, God's Word shows that it is very necessary.

There are also people who believe that they can come to God in prayer by using the name of someone whom they regard as a saint. But, like persons who leave Jesus' name out of their prayers, they are not recognizing God's Word as true. It records Jesus' words that clearly reveal the fact that there is no other avenue of approach to God except through him. He said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Nowhere do the Scriptures sanction the use of any other intercessor in prayer to God.

Because someone living at a time in the past led a very religious life, that does not qualify him as a person's mediator with God. Even the apostle Peter did not earn such a position. Prayers addressed to God through him are not heard, because that is not the avenue of approach God has indicated for man to use. Only Jesus Christ was made that avenue, and for a very good reason.

Long ago the nation of Israel thought it could come to Jehovah God through a channel he did not approve. It set up a golden calf at Mount Sinai, and later ten tribes set up two golden calves, one at Bethel and the other at Dan. They thought that they were worshiping Jehovah God through these visual aids. When the golden calf at Mount Sinai was finished, Aaron said: "This is your God, O Israel, who led you up out of the land of Egypt." (Ex. 32:4) Jeroboam said the same thing when he made two golden calves to represent Jehovah for the ten tribes who made him king. "Consequently the king took counsel and made two golden calves and said to the people: 'It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here is your God, O Israel, that brought you up out of the land of

Egypt.' " (1 Ki. 12:28) In both instances Jehovah God refused to recognize the golden calves as visual representatives of him. He refused to hear prayers directed through them.

Professed Christians today who believe that God is pleased with the use of visual aids in prayer, such as images of persons regarded as saints, should consider what he said about the Israelites when they used the golden calves as visual aids in worshiping him. At Mount Sinai he said to Moses: "Go, descend, because your people whom you led up out of the land of Egypt have acted ruinously." (Ex. 32:7) So, instead of doing as they did, a professed Christian should let God's Word be true by letting what it says be his guide in the prayerful worship of the Creator.

The reason that Jesus Christ is the only channel of approach to God is that he purchased the human race by the sacrifice of his perfect life. Christians at Corinth were reminded: "You were bought with a price." (1 Cor. 6:20) The perfect human life of Jesus Christ was that price. He thus became the legal mediator between man and God. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, a man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a corresponding ransom for all."—1 Tim. 2:5, 6.

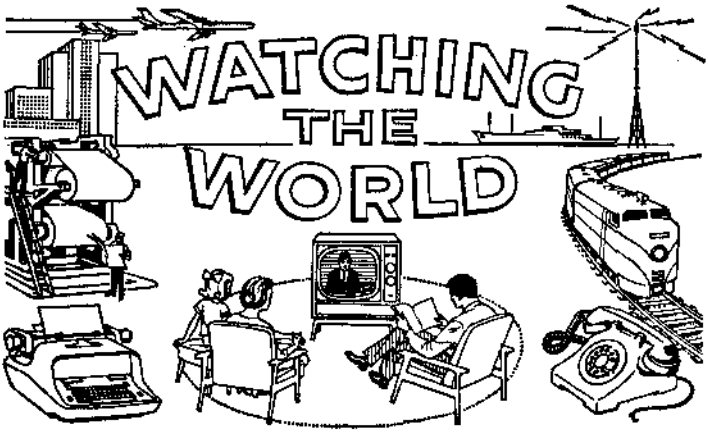
On the basis of his sacrifice he became the means by which a person can gain salvation from the curse of death. Pointing this out, God's Word of truth says: "Furthermore, there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved." (Acts 4:12) No other man is able to be a ransom sacrifice for mankind, for all have been imperfect descendants of Adam. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) Only Jesus Christ escaped inheriting Adam's sin because his life did not come by procreation through Adam's line of descent but was transferred by God from the heavenly realm. Thus he was a perfect, sinless human whose life had redemptive value.

With salvation coming only through Jesus Christ because of his ransom sacrifice, the Bible truthfully says that there is no salvation in any other name. That is why Jesus said: "I am the door; whoever enters through me will be saved." (John 10:9) Since there is only one door and not many, he is the only one through whom prayer can be directed to God.

By using Jesus' name in prayer, a person shows recognition of the ransom sacrifice that opened the door of salvation for him. It is acknowledgment of the Mediator that Jehovah God chose to serve between himself and mankind. It is not for a man to decide that another avenue of approach is just as good or more effective. In fact, no man has the right to declare that God can be approached in a way that the heavenly Father has not authorized in his written Word.

It is self-deception to imagine that prayer through a plaster, stone or metal image of someone regarded as having been saintly is acceptable to God. His Word points out the mistake the Israelites made in this respect. We should strive to benefit from their error. It also is self-deception to imagine that prayer will be heard by man's Creator when it is not offered in Jesus' name, as is the custom of some clergymen.

With the historical record of the Israelites before us, the wisdom of following the direction of the Scriptures when offering prayer to God becomes evident. It is the way to avoid the course of ruination that was chosen by the Israelites at Mount Sinai and under the rule of Jeroboam. Since it tells us that the only way to him is through Jesus Christ and that whatever we ask God should be in Jesus' name, we should pray in that manner. It is the way to offer prayers to God that are heard.



Drunken Drivers

◈ Perhaps Finland has an answer to a growing problem in the world, that is, what to do with drunken drivers. For the past seven years the Finnish government has made drunken drivers work at building airports. They build new runways and lengthen old ones. And the police chief promised that there are more than enough airports to keep drunken drivers busy for many years to come. Building airports is hard work. Pickaxes and shovels are used. Generally a drunken driver is sentenced to three months at hard labor. By the time the three months are up, the drunken driver is solidly sober. Police chief Fjalar Jarva says about the impartiality of Finnish justice: "We have had members of Parliament and big bosses out there as well as ordinary workers." Even police officers have been sent to the airport. At the last count there were 207 men convicted of drunken driving, all at work at the Helsinki Airport.

Gas War

◈ As far as known, for the first time since World War I the United States has become involved in the combat use of gas in warfare. On March 22 the U.S. State Department disclosed that it was giving the South Vietnamese some temporarily disabling "types of tear gas." The gases in question were "similar to types of tear gas employed in riot control all over the world," the State Department said. Any aspect of war is uncivilized and barbaric. Yet officials in Washington have suggested that gases were more humane in certain situations than indiscriminate artillery fire or bombardment. The world will rejoice to see the day when men learn war no more.

Refusal Upheld

◈ A court-ordered blood transfusion was judged an unconstitutional invasion of religious rights by the Illinois Supreme Court on March 18. The unanimous opinion of the Court was that the lower court should not have permitted doctors to give the patient, Mrs. Bernice Brooks, one of Jehovah's witnesses, blood transfusions against her wishes. Jehovah's witnesses believe blood transfusions are a violation of God's law and that transgressors will be punished by God. Both Mrs. Brooks and her husband had signed waivers releasing the hospital from liability for her refusal to accept blood. Mrs. Brooks was being treated for a bleeding ulcer.

War on Illiteracy

◈ The Moroccan government is out to end illiteracy within its borders. Recently it has reached an agreement with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to teach some 800,000 Moroccans to read and write Arabic. This undertaking will last two years and cover more than half the country. The cost will be less than one dollar per head. The plan is described as "a victory against hunger and ignorance," but it will leave many more victories yet needing to be won.

Frei in Chile

◈ "We are going to build a new Chile for all the people, a revolution in liberty," was Eduardo Frei Montalvo's cry, which won him Chile's presidency last September. With a group of young men, Frei has won the broad support of the nation. Chile now has one of the most solid democratic governments in Latin America. In Chile, congressional elections are held separately from presidential elections. With a smashing congressional victory at the election polls in March, Frei now has a free hand to put across his many reform proposals. The question now is, How many of those proposals will become realities? The world waits to see.

Earthquakes and Warning

◈ On March 10, in the northwest Aegean Sea, inhabitants of Alonisos Island rushed out of their homes into the open as 35 earthquakes jolted the island in 24 hours. Two elderly women were killed and one person was injured. Property damage was great and a thousand were made homeless. On the same day quakes rocked the cities of Arak in Iran and Lisbon in Portugal.

This has been an era marked by devastating earthquakes, and if the U.S. Geological Survey is an authority about the future, the end of earthquakes is not yet. The Survey warned that the United States, along the San Andreas Fault, is in store for an earthquake as strong as the one that shook

San Francisco practically off its foundations in 1906. While there is nothing that men can do to prevent earthquakes from happening, yet by their complying with building codes the hazards stemming from earthquakes can be greatly reduced, said the Geological Survey.

Men and Space

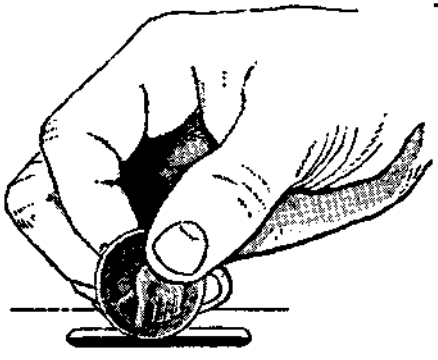
◈ Two Russian cosmonauts, Alexei Leonov and Pavel Belyayev, were hurled into space in their two-man spaceship on March 18. Leonov made history when he became the first man to leave a spaceship and step out into space. He drifted along for about ten minutes, then returned safely to his capsule by means of a lifeline that was attached to him. This maneuver was considered a giant step toward landing a man on the moon. On March 23 astronauts Virgil Grissom and John W. Young swept three times around the earth in the Gemini space capsule and performed what officials called the "truly historic maneuver" of jockeying from one orbit to another. The American astronauts were picked up from their floating capsule by a helicopter after it had landed in the Atlantic 4 hours and 56 minutes after takeoff. The following day U.S. Ranger 9 returned history's first live television close-ups of the lunar surface just before it crashed.

Naslada

◈ Radio Free Europe's monitoring service quoted Radio Sofia as saying that Bulgaria has a new wine that it is marketing called "bull's blood." The trade name is Naslada. It will soon be sold in Hungary too, according to reports. Bulgaria says that the wine is a result of creative research and based on Soviet experience. The full recipe calls for "the sterilized blood of big-horned cattle, glycerine, sugar, pure alcohol, vanilla extract, chocolate, and distilled water." It is said to taste sweet and is aromatic. But the recipe in itself is enough to turn one's stomach.

Vampires in Reverse

◈ In Athens, Greece, according to the Auckland *Star* for March 1, there are more than 500 men whose only source of income is from selling their blood. A leading Greek expert on blood, Dr. Mikes Paidousis, who is director of the transfusion center at the King Paul Hospital, warned that the profession of these blood sellers poses a public health threat. He stated that the official price of blood is £3 a pint. The misuse of blood obviously not only has spread such diseases as syphilis, malaria and jaundice, but it has also enhanced the selfishness of these professional donors.



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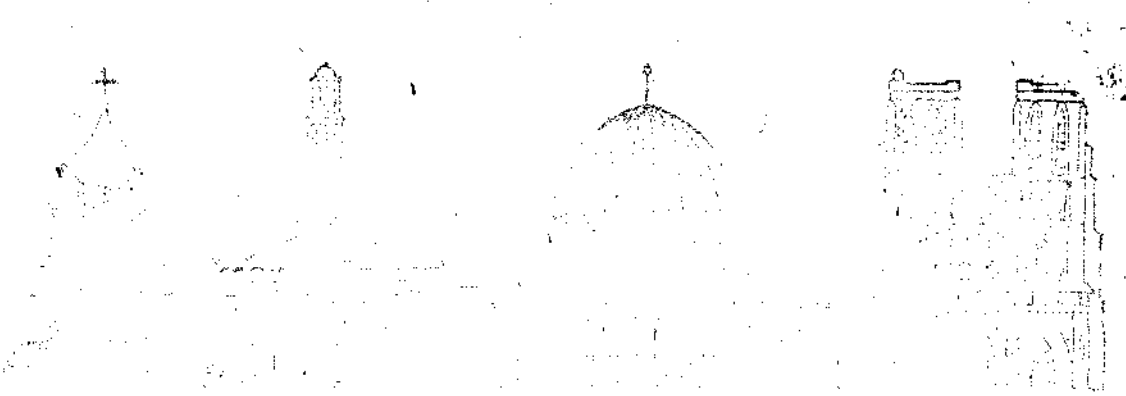

What Has Religion Done for Mankind?

In view of present world conditions, the question "What has religion done for mankind?" is well worthy of consideration. But the question must be approached and the answer sought, not in cynicism or skepticism, but with an eye to determining why religion, as practiced by so many sincere persons throughout the centuries, has not brought the results they desired, namely, peace of mind and improved world conditions. Is religion itself a failure, or have men failed in their practice of religion?

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